

IN THE CLAIMS

Please make the following amendments to the claims.

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing an aqueous coating material with precisely defined shade and optical effect, comprising mixing modules differing in material composition and function and stored separately from one another, shortly before application of the coating material, wherein the modules comprise:

(I) at least one module ~~containing~~ comprising less than 5% by weight water that provides at least one of color and effect, comprising:

(A1) at least one base color ~~containing~~ comprising less than 5% by weight water that imparts at least one of color and effect comprising:

(a11) at least one binder, wherein the at least one binder is optionally water-soluble or water-dispersible;

(a12) at least one pigment that imparts at least one of color and effect; and

(a13) at least one organic solvent, wherein the at least one organic solvent is optionally water-miscible;

and optionally, at least one of:

(a14) at least one crosslinking agent;

(a15) at least one auxiliary; and

(a16) at least one additive;

(II) at least one aqueous color module, comprising:

(A2) at least one aqueous color-imparting base color, comprising:

(a21) at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder;₁

(a22) at least one color pigment;₁ and

(a23) 10 to 89% by weight water;₁

and optionally, at least one of:

(a24) at least one organic solvent, wherein the at least one organic solvent is optionally water- miscible;₁

(a25) at least one crosslinking agent;₁

(a26) at least one auxiliary;₁ and

(a27) at least one additive;

and

(III) at least one pigment-free mixing varnish module₁ comprising:

(B) at least one aqueous, pigment-free mixing varnish₁ comprising:

(b1) at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder;₁ and

(b2) water;₁

and optionally, at least one of:

(b3) at least one crosslinking agent;₁

(b4) at least one auxiliary;₁ and

(b5) at least one additive;

and optionally:

(IV) at least one pigment-free rheology module₁ comprising:

(C) an aqueous medium, comprising:

(c1) at least one rheology control additive;

optionally, with the proviso that at least one of the at least one additives (a16), (a27), and (b5) further comprise the at least one rheology control additive (c1).

4-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the at least one base color (A1) imparts one of i) effect or ii) color and effect.

19. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the ~~mixing~~ modules comprise one of:

1. the at least one ~~color~~ module (I) ~~containing~~ comprising less than 5% by weight water that provides color, the at least one aqueous color module (II), and the at least one ~~aqueous~~, pigment-free mixing varnish module (III),

2. the at least one ~~color and effect~~ module (I) ~~containing~~ comprising less than 5% by weight water that provides color and effect, the at least one aqueous color module (II), and the at least one ~~aqueous~~, pigment-free mixing varnish module (III), and

3. the at least one ~~effect~~ module (I) ~~containing~~ comprising less than 5% by weight water that provides effect, the at least one color module (I) containing less than 5% by weight water, at least one aqueous color module (II), and the at least one ~~aqueous~~, pigment-free mixing varnish module (III).

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the at least one additive (b5) comprises the at least one rheology control additive (c1).

22. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the modules ~~aqueous coating material further~~ comprises the at least one pigment-free rheology module (IV).

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the at least one binders (a11), the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder (a21), and the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder (b1) ~~come from~~are of a the same polymer class.

26. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the at least one binders (a11), the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder (a21), and the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder (b1) are polyurethane resins.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 3, wherein the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binders (a21) and the at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible binder (b1), and -optionally the at least one binder (a11), comprise functional groups that can be converted into anions by at least one of neutralizing agents and anionic groups.

29-41. (Canceled)